

The **Massachusetts Office of Technical Assistance and Technology (OTA)** is issuing this notification to companies in the state that potentially could be impacted by new regulations on Chemical Facility Security issued by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). This notice is being sent as a follow-up to our earlier notice regarding requirements for companies under the new DHS rules.

Note: On November 20, 2007 the Department of Homeland Security published the final **Appendix A** in the *Federal Register*. *The deadline in the Chemical Facilities Anti-Terrorism Standard (CFATS) interim final rule for submission of "Top Screens" required by is 60 calendar days from the date of publication of Appendix A in the Federal Register. This means that they must be filed no later than January 22, 2008.*

The following is a summary of what can be found on the [DHS website](#):

If you have hazardous chemicals at your facility, you may need to register and submit information to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). On April 9, 2007, DHS published final regulations in the Federal Register that establish risk-based and performance-based standards for chemical plants to help protect against terrorist attacks. **Under the new regulations facilities that manufacture, use, store or distribute listed chemicals at above-threshold amounts must complete a secure online risk assessment to assist in determining overall level of risk. Facilities determined to be "high-risk" will then be required to conduct vulnerability assessments and submit site security plans that meet the appropriate performance standards. DHS will validate the information provided by the facilities through audits and inspections.**

All facilities with chemicals listed in the rule's Appendix A at or above the screening threshold quantities (STQ) must register and submit a Chemical Security Assessment Tool (CSAT) Top-Screen. You should review the regulation and determine if you need to register and submit a Top-Screen for your facility. More information can be found on the DHS website at http://www.dhs.gov/xprevprot/laws/gc_1166796969417.shtm.

The CSAT [Top-Screen Questions](#) and [User Manual](#) are also available online at the DHS website. **Failure to submit the Top-Screen may result in civil penalties, a DHS audit and inspection, or an order to cease operations.**

Simply stated, to determine whether you are covered, look at Appendix A to see if you have chemicals in amounts greater than the thresholds given. **DHS may notify larger "high risk" chemical facilities by letter, which most likely will be preceded by a phone call.**

The CSAT helpdesk is available at 866-323-2957 or at csat@dhs.gov.

For more information on the applicability of this new regulation to your facility, contact OTA at 617-626-1060.